

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
SAN GABRIEL AND LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY
RIVERS AND MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY (RMC)**

July 9, 2018

**Held at the
City of Bellflower
City Hall, Green Room
16600 Civic Center Drive
Bellflower, CA 90706
And
California Natural Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311-Conference Room 1306
Sacramento, CA 95814**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Colonna called the meeting to order at approximately 1:30 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Julian Juarez was sworn in right after roll call.

Voting Members Present

Chair Frank Colonna
Vice Chair Dan Arrighi
Ms. Margaret Clark
Mr. Denis Bertone
Ms. Liz Reilly
Ms. Rose Espinoza
Mr. Jorge Morales

Mr. Josh Nelson (for Secretary Laird)
Ms. Janet Chin (for Supervisor Solis)
Mr. Roberto Uranga
Mr. Jonathan Bishop (for Mr. Rodriguez)
Mr. Ali Saleh
Mr. Julian Juarez (for Mark Pestrella)
Mr. Daniel Sulzer (for Colonel Colloton)

Non-Voting Members Present

Members Absent

Ms. Judy Nelson
Ms. Eraina Ortega (for Mr. Cohen)
Mr. Keith Lilley (for Ms. Farber)
Mr. Jeff Vail (for Mr. Moore)
Mr. Stan Chen (for Mr. Johnson)
Mr. Sean Woods (for Ms. Mangat)
Ms. Christy Suppes (for Mr. Silsby)
Ms. Sandra Massa-Lavitt
Mr. John Donnelly
Ms. Suely Saro (Senator R. Lara)

Ms. Sarah Patterson (for Assemblymember P. O'Donnell)

Staff Present

Mark Stanley, Executive Officer
David Edsall, Jr., Deputy Attorney General
Dena Williams, Board Secretary
Salian Garcia, Accounting Analyst
Marybeth Vergara, Project Manager
Joseph Gonzalez, Project Manager

Ms. Espinoza arrived at approximately 1:50 p.m.

In an effort to preserve the quorum for the closed session item, Chair Colonna moved Item 17 to be heard prior to public comments.

The meeting went into closed session at approximately 1:33 p.m.

14. **CLOSED SESSION: THE CONSERVANCY MAY HOLD A CLOSED SESSION AT ANY TIME DURING THE MEETING PURSUANT TO THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF ATTORNEY-CLIENT COMMUNICATIONS AND PRIVILEGES PROVIDED FOR IN GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 11126(E) TO DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING MATTER: THOMPSON V. CALIFORNIA STATE RIVERS & MOUNTAINS CONSERVANCY, ET AL., GOV. CODE, § 11126(E)(2)(A).**

David Edsall, Counsel for the RMC, provided updates and advised the Board on ongoing litigation. The Board provided direction to counsel.

The meeting resumed open session at approximately 1:40 p.m.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

4. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

There were no discrepancies noted. There were two sets of minutes to approve.

Ms. Reilly moved to approve the minutes for 3/26/18; Mr. Morales seconded the motion. Mr. Morales moved to approve the minutes for 5/7/18; Mr. Saleh seconded the motion. Mr. Saleh and Mr. Bishop abstained. Minutes were approved.

5. **CHAIR'S REPORT**

There was no report given. Chair Colonna thanked the Counsel for diligently working on the law suit with the State.

6. **DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL'S REPORT**

There was no report given.

7. **EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORTS**

A. Legislative

The Executive Officer gave an overview and update on several State legislative bills including AB 1558 (Garcia, C.) – Los Angeles River; River Ranger Program; AB 466 (Bocanegra, D.) – Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries Working Group; AB 1918 (Garcia, Eduardo D.) – Office of Sustainable Outdoor Recreation and Proposition 68 which was SB 5 (DeLeon, K.) – California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018. Regarding Prop. 68, he pointed out that there is \$30 million of direct allocation funding for the RMC and another \$37.5 million for projects along the Los Angeles River.

Board Member Clark asked about AB 1180(Holden D.) if a tax levy was being requested, would it have to go to the general public to vote. Mr. Stanley answered yes it would have to be voted by the public if Flood Control District wanted to levy a tax, fee or charges for this bill.

B. Capital Outlay and Support Budget

Salian Garcia, Accounting Analyst, gave an overview of the capital outlay and support budget. She pointed out that the staff report reflects balances as of July 1, 2018, and that the \$250,000 is for the Los Angeles River Ranger Implementation project which has been approved and is pending encumbrance. Ms. Garcia referred to Exhibit B pointing out that for the FY 2017/2018 the RMC spent only 76% of the budget. Ms. Garcia pointed out in Exhibit B that the Accounting Interdepartment amount highlighted represented the contract with DGS Fiscal Services and RMC and was a projected amount that could possibly change.

C. Cumulative Grant Project Status Summary

Ms. Garcia reported that the RMC has authorized 234 total projects, which consists of 196 completed, 34 certified, 1 approved and pending encumbrance with the remaining balance of 3 withdrawn projects.

D. Project and Liaison Activities

The Executive Officer discussed the recent activity of the Lower Los Angeles River Working Group (AB 530) and RMC there was a Signing Event that took place on Friday, April 6, 2018 and several Board Members were present. Mr. Stanley gave an overview of the All State Conservancies Conference that took place in Long Beach on April 25- 27, 2018 and it was attended by several leaders of the conservancies from all over California. Mr. Stanley also gave an overview of the Rosemead Grand Opening that he attended along with Board Member Margaret Clark and that the RMC was a contributing funder for the Jay Imperial Park and is now a passive recreational walking trail underneath a SCE right-of-way. Mr. Stanley highly recommended visiting the park.

CONSENT CALENDAR

8. **CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING A GRANT EXTENSION TO THE LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS AUTHORITY FOR THE BRYANT ACQUISITION (RMC 17013).**

There was no report given.

9. **CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING A GRANT EXTENSION TO THE LOS ANGELES CONSERVATION CORPS FOR THE WILLOWBROOK WALKING PATH COMPTON CREEK PROJECT (RMC 14003).**

This report was tabled.

10. **CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING A CONTRACT TO SOCIAL PHONE COMPANY FOR IT EQUIPMENT SAFETY AND STABILITY .**

There was no report given.

11. **CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING A GRANT EXTENSION TO NORTHEAST TREES FOR THE GATEWAY CITIES AND RIVERS URBAN GREENING PLAN (RMC13002).**

There was no report given.

12. **CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN UPDATED STYLE ENHANCEMENT TO THE RMC STATIONARY.**

There was no report given.

Mr. Bertone motioned to approve the resolutions in the Consent Calendar for Items 8, 10, 11 & 12; Mr. Morales seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Roll call vote – Ayes = 12; Nays = 0; Abstentions = 0

REGULAR CALENDAR

13. **CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019 FINAL BUDGET.**

Salian Garcia, Accounting Analyst, gave a breakdown and a slide presentation of the FY 2018/2019 budget for WCA and explained that it was separated into four revenue and expenditure components. Ms. Garcia stated that those components were Administrative, Personnel, Operations and Grants and Special Projects with revenue totaling \$10,804,618 and expenditures balancing the budget with a total amount of \$10,804,618.

Mr. Uranga motioned to approve the resolution; Ms. Reilly seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Roll call vote – Ayes = 12; Nays = 0; Abstentions = 0

14. **CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING A SCOPE AND BUDGET ADJUSTMENT TO THE WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY FOR THE RIVER WILDERNESS PARK PROJECT (RMC14001).**

Joe Gonzalez, Project Manager, gave a brief overview of the project description and background explaining that the extension is being requested as the result of delays due to the complexity of certain elements of the project and the coordination of the City of Azusa, CalTrans, Southern California Edison, Azusa Light and Water and LA County Public Works took longer than expected. Mr. Gonzalez stated that this grant extension and

budget augmentation will provide the time and funds necessary to complete the stepped Construction Document packages and move the project from design to permitting and construction phase of the development.

Mr. Bertone motioned to approve the resolution; Mr. Bishop seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Roll call vote – Ayes = 12; Nays = 0; Abstentions = 0

15. CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING A GRANT TO THE AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC FOR THE PACIFIC VISIONS PROJECT (RMC17026).

____ Marybeth Vergara, Project Manager, gave an overview of the project description and background and also stated that the project is scheduled to open to the public in Spring 2019 and will emphasize on making Southern California “water resilient”. Ms. Vergara also stated that the wing will include four galleries that will be filled with captivating stories about our planet that generate new discoveries, collective learning and inspiration to become better stewards of our local, regional and global environments.

Ms. Clark motioned to approve the resolution; Mr. Saleh seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Roll call vote – Ayes = 12; Nays = 0; Abstentions = 0

16. CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING A GRANT TO THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION FOR THE MAGIC JOHNSON STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PROJECT (RMC17027).

____ Marybeth Vergara, Project Manager, gave an overview of the project description and background explaining that this project would support the water infrastructure improvements and construction near Earvin “Magic” Johnson Recreation area’s South Lake in the amount of \$3,000,000 and would be funded by Proposition 1 from funds remaining in the round one solicitation. Ms. Vergara also stated that the project is scheduled to begin construction in October 2018 and is anticipated to be completed by the Spring of 2020. Mr. Stanley added that there was no increase to the budget but just a change in the allocation of dollar amount for demolition and the contingency was reduced from 10% to 5%.

Mr. Uranga motioned to approve the resolution; Vice Chair Arrighi seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Roll call vote – Ayes = 12; Nays = 0; Abstentions = 0

18. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

There were no Board member comments.

19. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING DATE

Mr. Stanley stated that the next meeting is July 23, 2018 and is recommending cancelling this meeting and meeting on September 24, 2018 at 1:30 p.m. in the City of Bellflower.

20. ADJOURNMENT UPON COMPLETION OF BUSINESS

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Colonna at approximately 2:40 p.m.